

RETI Phase 2 Work Group  
Draft Meeting Notes  
October 20, 2008

The RETI Phase 2 Work Group met at the California Energy Commission and via WebEx on October 20, 2008, beginning at 10:00 AM. Attendees listed below; notes compiled by Dave Olsen of CEERT.

**Work Group Structure and Organization**

- The group agreed to work as a committee of the whole, rather than forming CREZ-specific planning teams. We will do technical analysis as a group and make decisions as a group, to make sure all interests are represented. All participants will be involved in thinking through best options for connecting priority CREZ to the grid, with attention to downstream effects. Electrical interactions among connection plans for each CREZ require development of an integrated regional and statewide plan, rather than a compilation of individual CREZ connection plans.
- We formed a Northern California subcommittee to identify transmission solutions for Northern California resources. These might include, for example, expansion of TANC's Zeta Project to include PG&E or other transmission providers. Changes to the bulk power system in Southern California due to addition of major new facilities to CREZ there will affect the bulk system in the north. Increased South-North transfers may be part of the integrated statewide conceptual plan to be produced in Phase 2. Initial NoCal subcommittee members include SMUD (Joe Tarantino, Mike DeAngelis); PG&E (John Eric Thalman); TANC; and CAISO.
- We may form other subcommittees as necessary.
- We agreed the Work Group will be co-chaired by the CAISO and POU's. The POU co-chair will ensure that all POU interests are represented; the CAISO co-chair will ensure participation of IOUs in Northern as well as Southern California. Gary DeShazo (CAISO) and Mo Beshir (LADWP) agreed to serve in these roles.
- There was unanimous agreement that the conceptual plan recommended by the Work Group should represent facilities best for the state as a whole, electrically, economically and environmentally, without regard to ownership or jurisdiction.

**Scope of Phase 2 Work**

- Focus is not just on how to connect CREZ, but on how to reinforce and enhance the grid to accommodate large-scale renewable energy flows. The Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project produced by the Tehachapi Collaborative Study Group provides a model.
- EWG to apply environmental screens in parallel with evaluation of electrical connection options, starting with CREZ maps, black and yellow areas identified in Phase 1 and existing ROW. Schematic of possible connections between priority CREZ and existing major transmission infrastructure to be supplied by the Work Group. EWG will identify connections that face siting challenges or which appear infeasible due to environmental fatal flaws. This will save time and effort by warning conceptual transmission plans away from problematic connections and result in a more robust overall plan.

- CAISO will do detailed analysis of Phase 2 conceptual plan in its 2009 Transmission Planning Process. To meet the ISO Request Window requirement, the Work Group must specify the locations and MW of renewables to be connected, by November 30, 2008.
- CAISO will integrate RETI Phase 2 conceptual plan, GIPR cluster study results and IOU 10-year transmission plans into an overall plan that can be presented to the ISO board for approval in January 2010. RETI Phase 2 work must be geared to support this schedule.
- Power flow analysis of at least some conceptual facilities will be necessary to demonstrate credibility of the overall conceptual plan. We may be able to make use of recent load flow studies performed by transmission providers. We will determine how power flow studies should be coordinated between the ISO and POUs. Redispatch of existing fossil units and treatment of renewables imports are to be determined.

### **Planning Assumptions**

- The SSC will provide guidance on the amount of renewable power (and thus the number of CREZ) the Phase 2 conceptual plan should accommodate. SSC discussions to date indicate Phase 2 planning should consider facilities able to support 150% or more of the RETI net short (which is ~75 TWh/year).
- New renewables will displace some existing fossil generation. Some renewables flows may be able to utilize transmission capacity available as a result of this displacement.
- Use existing infrastructure and ROW to greatest extent possible.

### **Stakeholder Involvement**

- As outlined in the Phase 2 work plan, we will develop a process for soliciting stakeholder input, review and comment on development of the conceptual transmission plan and a schedule of meetings for this purpose.

### **Phase 2 Report**

- We will produce a Draft Phase 2 Report by mid-February, 2009 for review by the RETI Stakeholder Steering Committee, and a Final Phase 2 Report by March 31, 2009.
- The Phase 2 report will include an integrated conceptual plan for providing transmission access to priority CREZ while enhancing the grid to accommodate large renewable power flows; environmental evaluation of priority CREZ and permitting feasibility of identified conceptual transmission connections, to be provided by the EWG; high-level estimates of the financial cost of the plan; and a summary of stakeholder involvement in development of the plan.
- We will produce a progress report by December 31, 2008, summarizing the Work Group's activities to that date. We will not produce an interim Phase 2 report by December 31, as earlier envisioned.

### **Next Meeting and Meeting Schedule**

- **Next Meeting:** November 5, at PG&E in San Francisco, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM  
**Agenda:** Review maps of priority CREZ; crayon-level discussion of connection options. Develop and adopt stakeholder involvement and outreach plan. Schedule work for next three months.  
**Preparation:** In the week between release of CREZ rankings to SSC members on October 28 and the Nov. 5 meeting, identify options for connecting priority CREZ; bring these to the meeting.

- **Meeting Schedule:** The Work Group will meet every other Wednesday, through at least February 2009, beginning November 5. Thus: Nov. 19; Dec. 3; Dec. 17; Jan. 7; Jan. 21, etc. Given the nature of the work, in-person meetings are likely to be more productive. Some meetings may be held via WebEx.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

#### Work Group Members Attending

PG&E	Kevin Dasso, John Eric Thalman (WebEx)
SDG&E	Jan Strack
SCE	Shashi Pandey
SMUD	Mike DeAngelis, Joe Tarantino
IID	Juan Carlos Sandoval (WebEx)
CAISO	Gary DeShazo
LADWP	Mohammed Beshir (WebEx)
Sierra Club	Carl Zichella (WebEx)
Geothermal	John McCaull (WebEx)
Wind	Darius Shirmohammadi
NRDC	Johanna Wald (WebEx)
CPUC	Anne Gillette (WebEx), Tom Flynn
CEC	Mark Hesters

#### Observers

CAISO	Robin Smutny-Jones
CEC	Chuck Najarian, Jim Bartridge, Don Kondoleon, Joseph Merrill
US Forest Service	Julie Tupper
Black & Veatch	Tim Mason, Derek Djeu
Geothermal	Jim Kritikson
DWR	Mark Saghai
Sempre	Paul Syzmanski

#### Coordinators:

Rich Ferguson, Dave Olsen – CEERT